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VOL. XIII. No. 8.

# WEEKLY PEOPLE



NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MAY 23, 1903

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PRICE TWO CENTS

## THE SWEATSHOPS

CONSUMERS' LEAGUE CONFESSES INABILITY TO SUPPRESS THEM.

Laws Urged for Their Restriction, Despite the Fact That Those Already in Existence Are Futile—"Impotence" Stamped All Over the "War."

The "war" against child labor in factories, and unsanitary, "sweat-shop" made white goods, which has been and is being waged by the National Consumers' League, is described at length in the third annual report of the League, now made public. The slow spread of the use of the League label in New York city is commented upon as follows:

The small number of factories in the city of New York embraced in the League list may be accounted for by the general practice of employing girls under the age of sixteen years; by the permission to work overtime, which is embodied in the factory law of the State of New York; and by the almost universal custom of giving out goods to be made up away from the premises of the manufacturer. The new Child Labor law, which will take effect in October next, provides that boys and girls under the age of sixteen years may not be employed longer than nine hours in any one day, and fifty-four hours in one week. As the terms of the statute are clear and appear to be workable, it is possible that the enforcement of this provision may place a sufficient premium upon the employment of older persons (who will remain free to work ten hours in a day and sixty hours in a week) to discourage somewhat the work of the children in the needle trade. The latest report of the State Factory Inspector is not encouraging reading on this subject; however, as it records only three convictions obtained and three fines of \$20 each imposed in the whole State of New York in a year by reason of violations of the old law restricting the hours of labor of women and children, although the widespread, habitual violation of that law has for years been notorious.

According to the same report: "The largest problem with which the Bureau has to deal is that of testament manufacture. Almost two-thirds of the inspections, 40 per cent. of the complaints, and over 60 per cent. of the prosecutions are concerned with this failure of New York activity. While concentrations of population and industry in cities would ordinarily make the supervision of factory conditions easier than in the days of neighborhood industries scattered through the towns and villages of the State, this advantage has been more than counterbalanced by the distribution of factory work among innumerable small shops and family workrooms in city tenements. More factory employees work at the manufacture of clothing (men's suits and overcoats and women's cloaks and wrappers) than in any other individual industry—75,355 persons. Of this number 62,390 are licensed to work in tenement houses."

"Nearly 70 per cent. of all licensed places are in New York city (69.6 exactly). Of individual streets, Mulberry, Mott, Elizabeth and Chrystie lead all others in the number of licenses, 1951 being held by persons on one of those four comparatively short streets in the heart of the East Side."

The report says: "To hold every license fully up to the standard of the law would require almost constant surveillance, while under the most favorable circumstances the Department cannot with its present force of inspectors make more than two inspections annually of the 30,000 licensed places."

"Of the 62,380 persons licensed to work in the garment trades in tenement houses, forty-six persons were fined in a year for violations of the law. This is a trifle more than one person for each of the thirty-nine inspectors, and a trifle less than one in a thousand of the licensed persons. As it is notorious that the law is more honored in the breach than in the observance, particularly in the streets in which the licensees are most abundantly granted—in Mulberry, Mott and Elizabeth streets—this record of incompetence in the enforcement of the law by prosecution indicates an urgent need of radical change either in the methods or the personnel of the Factory Inspection Department."

"The difficulty attending the award of the label to manufacturers in the city of New York is further intensified by the fact that eight, at least, among the large sectarian places of incarnation of women and children in the State of New York regularly work for the market. As these institutions are thus really factories, yet are exempt from registration and factory inspection, it is never possible to know certainly which manufacturers are sending goods away from their own premises to be made up in the institutions. In several cases the city of New York pays per capita maintenance allowance to these institutions. It thus does indirectly what it has ceased to do directly, namely, pays for the maintenance of incarcerated persons, the product of whose labor is thrown upon the market in competition with the product of factories in which every worker is receiving wages. The competition of this form of prison labor presses heavily upon the white muslin underwear trade in the city of New York."

Discussing the national situation, the League report says:

"The National Consumers' League can

embrace fifty-three leagues in eighteen States. Several States have a number of leagues, among them California with six and Connecticut with five. Massachusetts has besides the original old established league in Boston and the vicinity, the Worcester League and College Leagues at Smith, Wellesley and Mount Holyoke. Wisconsin has no less than ten leagues.

"The manufacturers authorized to use the label now number forty-three, controlling forty-seven factories in eleven States. There is less change needed to bring an average factory up to the requirements of the Consumers' League in Massachusetts than in any other State.

"As the presence of children in the factories is one of the great obstacles to the progress of the work of the league, the Secretary has embraced every opportunity for promoting the widespread agitation against child labor. The Consumers' League of the city of New York suspended all other legislative work in order to co-operate with the New York Child Labor Committee. All of the five bills drafted by the Committee have become laws and will take effect in September and October, 1903. Of these laws, one prohibits newsboys under the age of ten years from working. Newsboys between the ages of ten and fourteen years must be licensed by the Board of Education. This law applies to the cities of New York and Buffalo. A second law prohibits children under the age of fourteen years from working in factories, even during vacation, which had been permitted on a large scale for children between the ages of twelve and fourteen years. The fourth law provides a penalty for every one who makes a false statement in the certificate authorizing a child to work. This affects parents, guardians, teachers, notaries and officers of local Boards of Health, all of whom have hitherto in some cases been culpably negligent, if not actively mendacious. Finally, the compulsory education law requires children between the ages of eight and fourteen years to attend school 180 days in each year; and provides required night school attendance for boys between fourteen and sixteen years of age, three nights in the week, four months of each year, if they have not finished the work of the fifth year of the public schools."

The League's card of "Dont's" bears this list of requests to women:

"Don't shop after five o'clock or on Saturday afternoons. Don't leave your Christmas shopping until the week before Christmas. Don't receive packages delivered after six o'clock. Don't give your address carelessly to sales people. Don't neglect to ask for underwear bearing the Consumers' League label."

### GOOD SHOTS.

From the Wage Worker, Monthly Organ of the Socialist Labor Party, Published at Detroit, Mich.

John D. Rockefeller is traveling in Mexico, yet his "brains" are still "managing" the oil industry, the railroads, the copper mines, etc. that are located in different parts of the United States. What wonderful brains!

The S. L. P. teaches that there is no harmony between capital and labor; that one is instituted for the purpose of exploiting the other, and no such thing as "identity of interests" can possibly exist between the thief and his victim—the capitalist and the wage-worker. How can pure and simple trade unionists claim to be Socialists, so long as they seek the solution of the problem of toil by retaining amicable relations—"harmony of interests"—between the capitalists and wage-workers?

"Fifty thousand working women in Greater New York do not earn enough wages to pay for their board and clothes," says "Father Sheedy" in his book, "Social Problems." "They must either beg or do worse," he comments. And yet "Father Sherman," Bishop Quigley, and others, say: "Socialism means shame for our mothers, wives and sweethearts." It is the old cry of the thief, capitalism, crying "stop thief" to confuse his pursuers, the working class.

How many are there who do not realize that society as a whole is as much an organism as is the body of one person—the organization of atoms, and that this social organism moves, and has its being, and performs its functions just as surely as does the organization of atoms in the body co-operatively perform the functions of the body? We, as individuals, burdened as we are with personal cares which seem to be, exclusively, our own business, forced to struggle against one another to maintain our personal existence, are apt to confine our ideas of life to the individual. Our views are narrowed; we cannot look beyond our narrow sphere and comprehend this social life which moves and has its being. We, like the atom in the body, are unable to understand this social organism, or that we are an integral part of it.

The weather can not be changed by breaking the thermometer, and the capitalist can not stem the rising tide of Socialism by disfranchising the working class. Neither Mr. Parry, nor "The Business Men's League," will stay the S. L. P. with their primary reform measures. Bismarck's "iron hand," could not stay its growth in Germany, nor will "little boy" Simon's primary reform bill retard its growth in Michigan.

## CIVIC FEDERATION'S

Principles Exposed to All Who Can and Will See.

In the article "Unionism and Unions" we quote the ideas advanced by the Dutch Trades' Unionists on "the right to breach of contract." But now compare our own Sam-Gomperized American Federation of Labor with those ideas and sentiments. He is the first vice-chairman of Mark Hanna's Civic Federation. And the first copy of their "monthly review," the "National Civic Federation," contains a string of articles on the question of advisability of the "incorporation" of trades unions. The intention of the friends of "incorporation" is clearly demonstrated in their articles, to wit: to "add to their (the union's) responsibility;" to make them subject to legal responsibility;" to "discourage the present practice of declaring actual war on persons and property;" to "prevent insecurity from the standpoint of the employer;" to "make the union a contractor for labor" "of a certain standard of skill and at a certain rate of wages up to a certain number of men." Explanation is here superfluous, but the reasons advanced by others are not so easily comprehended, and these reasons point towards the fact that some means to force submission of the individual workingmen to the rule and the tyranny of the bosses—the employers—will still be considered necessary, and that it will be introduced either one way or another. The necessity to obtain the International or National Union officers' consent to local strikers worked beautifully, for a long time, to enable the bosses to prepare for strikes in a manner that would make defeat for the men a certainty. The agreements with the Local or National or International Unions disregarded all consideration of the rights of the men as individuals, and, hence, so long as a certain wage was paid, the unions were nothing but agencies—"contractors"—"for labor of a certain standard of skill and up to a certain number of men." Hence, all the dirty work, that the manufacturers, otherwise, would have had to pay for to get employees to perform it for them, became the functions to be performed by the caricature of organized labor called pure and simpledom. And instead of the bosses paying for those services performed for them by the executors of their needs, the men themselves had to pay those that traded off the standard of skill and up to a certain number of men.

John McNeil, of Kansas City, says: "There is not discipline enough among the men, and the employers do not in any way assist the national officers to establish same; while in the old country, of which I am a native, the employers did everything in their power to assist the national officers to establish discipline among the members by helping them to enforce fines upon the members who violated the law."

"John Tobin, editor Shoe Workers' Journal," says: "It is not necessary to incorporate a trade union to insure the inviolability of contracts that may be entered into between trade unions and employers. . . . In our agreements with the shoe manufacturers we surrender the right to strike."

And Herman Grossman, of New York, defends incorporation because his incorporated union was really able to treat with the bosses from a more even basis of equality—its defense against suits for damages by employers, having defeated "the claims of the employers." And then he says:

"The laws should permit trade unions to incorporate on the same basis as co-operative societies, and the right should be given to the organizations to declare the stock of an offending member forfeited for a violation of the rules of the organization."

That explanation is conclusive. Hence, he means that if the agreement between the employer and his agents—his pure and simple contractors for the labor power desired—fails, if the goods cannot be delivered because of the obstinacy of the ranks and file, he, Grossman, is in favor of invoking the aid of the law to keep the men out of all other employment, unless he may be able to find an employer with whom these contractors would not yet struck a bargain.

After considering the above remarks and views of the various capitalists and "labor leaders" as quoted, and explained in this article, nothing that may be advocated and introduced by that aggregation, should surprise anybody. It is no wonder that the least thing done by any discontented workingman is carried back immediately to the bosses by these very agents. Nor is it surprising that all kinds of technicalities are sought after, and are greedily picked up by them to find an excuse to side with "the bosses."

And when, finally they find that the misery among the men resulting from their nefarious bargaining, threatens to degrade certain other men to such a low level that they would set themselves up as competitors to the first contractors or agents in their own line of contracting, then, as may or can be noticed by anybody who will follow up the pure and simple papers, they distract attention from themselves by feigning sacredness, while the cry is raised: "a non-union union has been established," or "a spying agency exists now," or "look out for the spy."

But when such pointers are given, and when arguments are produced as are quoted above from articles of our Presidents of various National and International Unions, then it is easily noticed that the worst enemies of genuine labor organization, and the greatest spies to be found in or out of our ranks, are the very men who now have full sway as high officers of our organizations; and the smaller—or lower—officers, as a result of ignorance or rascality, act as their helpers.

Compare the sound principles taught by the Dutch labor organizations with that of the Civic Federationized A. F. of L., and it will be noticed that nothing but "class-consciousness among workingmen" can re-establish manly action among

ingmen by control of National and International Unions, they express themselves as does Mark Hanna. He says: "After full consideration, allowing sentiment to play its part upon the minds and hearts of the men. . . . that committee reported unanimously against a sympathetic strike. That report was made to that convention the day following, and was adopted unanimously by 1,000 votes. They agreed to stand by the word they had given in making that contract. . . . Therefore, I say that the test has come and the men have won the confidence, . . . and as far as I am concerned, (it) satisfied me that we want no incorporation of labor organizations."

Another employer, James E. Miller, of Chicago, admits these functions of the present form of "pure and simple organization in the following explanation: "Whether any of the devices for increasing the responsibility of the unions to the employers, where that end is to be attained by increasing the power of the unions over workingmen by enabling these organizations to farm out labor, as do the Chinese companies will tend to improve the character of the workingman, may well be questioned." That these agreements were effective, and have been understood in their proper sense by the "labor leaders" is shown by the following explanations by W. O. Powell of Troy, N. Y.: "No strike has taken place where a trade agreement has been in force. Strikes only take place where there is no trade agreement, or where trade agreements have wilfully been broken by the employers."

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Having received a cur-like treatment in his so-called former home, he naturally seeks a congenial avocation, a calling which will remind him of the "dear home," and he generally finds this

the pure and simple confused, misled and cheated workingmen.

The Socialist Labor Party as the political class conscious organization, and the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance as the class conscious organization in the economic field, are the only organizations that hold out to the wage-workers the hope of a better future resulting from manly and conscientious action.—The Wage Worker, official monthly organ of the Michigan Socialist Labor Party.

## THE CLERK

His "Right To Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness."

The public in general, composed chiefly of the mass of men and women, who earn their bread—with or without butter, as the case may be—in the sweat of their brow, is for this very reason, fairly well informed as to the conditions under which the average toiler exercises his constitutional right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." His life according to law—which means on paper—is as sacred as that of the multi-millionaire, and if a few thousand of his class perish annually in the coal mines, the representatives of the law experience very little trouble in showing that the general cause thereof is the dare-devil, life-despising carelessness of the miner. If a few hundred of the working class are eat in two by erratic rotary wheels, crushed or scorched to death in railroad wrecks, or sunk to the bottom of the sea from racing ocean "greyhounds," it will always be found that the same cause is at work in all of these disasters.

The statements regarding missing safeguards, ignorant inspectors, or bribed officials (what sane person can imagine such a thing as a bribed U. S. or State official!) are simply the idle emanations of cranks, foreigners, anarchists, etc. They are un-American in their spirit, and any prominent "Captain of Industry," or "eminent statesman" is cocksure that they are so. And even if there should be an iota of truth in these criticisms, why should the worker complain? Does not the constitution give him liberty? If one occupation does not suit him, is he not free to choose another one? Why, for instance, does he not go and remove the wool from the lambs as a broker in Wall street, or why does he not pull it over their eyes as a bishop of some church? Of course, there are mutterings about the big army of the unemployed, about the oppression by trusts, about the discrimination exercised by the government in favor of the capitalist, but these are the empty vainglories of idlers, never-do-wells and other irresponsible people, whose mental faculties have been affected by the all-powerful beams of the glorious American sun of liberty! Profound sociologists, without ever leaving their academic chairs, prominent savants, immersed in their studies for the natural terms of their respective lives, astute editors, cooped up all day in their sanctuaries, have clearly demonstrated the accuracy of this observation, not alone to their satisfaction, but also to that of the "better element."

And as he, furthermore, lives close to the store, in order not to lose any sleep, no reckless motorman or engineer will ever be the cause of his sudden demise. Of course, the store air has made him look pretty thin, and the dust has given him a chronic cough; his heart has been affected by the use of stimulants—for every few months, when the "all work and no play" sort of life nauseates him, he goes on a few days' spree—but these are only insignificant trifles, hardly worth while talking about. The "boss" says so, and other "bosses" of the same caliber say so, and, therefore, it must be so. "Merchants" of this sort, surely, would not prevaricate!

Furthermore, does he not possess "liberty"? Can he not do as he likes, if those don't suit him? He is at liberty every morning before 6:30, every evening after 10:30. He is at liberty for fully thirty minutes at noon and another thirty minutes he is free to use as super-time, and nobody interferes with his freedom while he sleeps. Of course, on Saturday, the busy day of the week, he has to work until 12 o'clock at night; but, then, does not the "boss" make good for that on Sunday and let him "off" between 2 and 3 o'clock p. m.? Surely the "clerk" enjoys liberty to overflow.

From the foregoing it may be easily concluded that his "pursuit of happiness" must of necessity be guided by the rule of the "Sainted Thomas," and it is very seldom hampered more than three or four times during the day by innocent remarks by the "boss" or his worthy helpmate, such as the following:

"Clerks, nowadays, don't overwork themselves." "I wonder where dem new ties went to?" "I vas short two dollars in der cash last night." Of course, these are justified to conclude that you are ready to protect your position at all times and against all comers. Perceiving, furthermore, that the fundamental basis of the boma side Socialist movement is the principle of the class struggle, we are again justified to conclude that the party which claims to be the advocate of Socialism and at the same time deviates from the cardinal principle of Socialism is the fraud upon the point in question.

Perceiving your anxiety to protect your "Party" even to the point of pleading your cause before local boards of elections, we are justified to conclude that you are ready to protect your position at all times and against all comers. Perceiving, furthermore, that the fundamental basis of the boma side Socialist movement is the principle of the class struggle, we are again justified to conclude that the party which claims to be the advocate of Socialism and at the same time deviates from the cardinal principle of

## GOMPERS LAUGHED AT

Lynn Workingmen Ask Him Questions  
And Nail Him in a Lie.

Lynn, Mass., May 4.—Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor, spoke in the Lynn Theatre last evening to an audience of about 600. More than half of the audience was opposed to him and his scabby organization, as was evidenced by the hostile demonstrations.

He boomed the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, for which the bogus Socialist party is acting as a scab bureau, and requested his hearers to purchase only union stamped shoes. The audience gave Sammy the laugh.

At the conclusion of Greasy Sammy's address, Comrade John R. Oldham, President of Lasters' Protective Alliance, L. A. No. 295, S. T. & L. A., demanded the privilege of the floor.

Comrade Oldham, holding up a copy of the official report of the last convention of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, held in Detroit a year ago, quoted from it, proving conclusively that the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union was a boss's organization.

Sammy denied the statement. He called it an alleged report, whereupon Comrade Oldham, once more holding up the book, called attention to the fact that it had the label of the B. & S. W. U. upon it. Gompers then said: "I am satisfied that it is an official report."

When Comrade Oldham arose to ask a second question, which put Sammy out of business and caused the chairman to speedily adjourn the meeting, he was applauded by the cutters, stitchers and other shoe workers on strike against Tobin's scabby affair. Full particulars of this meeting will be sent to The Daily People in the course of a few days.

A few nights ago a mass meeting of the employees of the General Electric Company was called to be held in Machinists' Hall, which was to be addressed by labor fakirs from Schenectady, N. Y. A large number of members of Section Lynn and L. A. No. 267, S. T. & L. A., attended this meeting and turned it into a "rough house." To use the language of the street, "We put it all over them."

The festival in honor of International Labor Day, held last Saturday evening in Exchange Hall, under the joint auspices of Section Lynn and the Italian Branch was a grand and magnificent success in every way. All refreshments were sold out before the conclusion of the dancing. Gallon after gallon of ice cream and other things were purchased and sold. All present thoroughly enjoyed themselves and the affair was voted a very enjoyable one. Guests were present from all parts of the State. A large number of the striking cutters and stitchers were also present.

District Alliance No. 19, S. T. & L. A. held a successful open-air meeting in Union Square on the evening of May 1. Comrades John W. Ryan, of Lynn, and Wm. H. Carroll, of Boston, addressed the meeting.

Altogether this past week was an eventful one for the S. L. P. and S. T. & L. A. F. A. W.

## PARRY RAPS HANNA.

Sneers at "Humble Followers of the Golden Rule."

Buffalo, May 14.—D. M. Parry, president of the National Association of Manufacturers, expounded his views on labor unionism in a speech here last night. He condemned conciliation as now carried out as unjust, because it simply meant taking the demands of the union and scaling them down one-half.

"Any one who objects to such arbitration, we are told, is against the Golden Rule," said Mr. Parry. "It is remarkable the number of men who are advertising themselves as humble followers of the Golden Rule. It seems to have become quite an excellent phrase with which to boost one's self into public office."

"If conciliatory arbitration must come, as the noble Senator says, then I should like to know if it will be permitted for the employers to make demands and have them arbitrated. It's a poor rule that does not work both ways."

"The conciliatory arbitration and so-called humanitarian policy is radically wrong in principle, and must inevitably result in great injustice as between classes of workingmen, and also in serious injury to the industries of the country, tending to bring about general poverty instead of general material welfare."

Parry said immediate organization of manufacturers to combat the unjust demands of labor unions was the solution of the problem.

Open Air Meetings of Section Chicago. Tuesday, May 26, 7.45 p. m.—Milwaukee avenue and Paulina street.

Thursday, May 28, 8 p. m.—Clark and Erie streets.

Saturday, May 30, 7.30 p. m.—Ninety-second street and Commercial avenue.

Weekly People readers are invited to attend these meetings and get in touch with the local section.

These meetings will be started promptly at the time scheduled. Members are particularly requested to be present.

August F. Fuller, Organizer.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT  
NOTES.

The work of placing the Party's debt on the machinery of The Daily People within our movement was inaugurated by Section New York at two different membership meetings; in Brooklyn on the night of May 14, and in New York on the following night. The Brooklyn meeting was not so well attended, but that held in New York more than made up for it. The club rooms of the Fourteenth Assembly District were crowded with members, who listened attentively to the explanations given as to the workings of the proposed plan. The spirit shown was excellent and all seemed to realize that such the move as proposed was both timely and absolutely necessary.

A large number of members declared their intention to take a loan certificate, some paying for it on the spot, in whole or in part, and it is safe to assume that New York will put in some lively work to accomplish what we have set out to do. If the sections of the country follow suit in the same spirit, we shall be able to clear away that burden within reasonable time.

The papers of the land are full of reports of strikes, North, South, East and West. This means that large numbers of the working class are in a state of agitation, and, therefore, in a frame of mind to discuss, to read and to listen. Such a state of affairs must be made use of by the militants of the S. L. P. to carry to these men the mission of our Party. Circulate leaflets, push the Party press, sell what literature you can. That excellent little pamphlet, "What Means This Strike?" is the thing to push. Its very title will make it a seller.

In the matter of gathering subscriptions for our Party press it must be said that, without looking for more than can in all reason be expected, the bulk of the membership is not doing what they can or ought to do.

It is true some comrades are doing excellent work, but the very activity of these few, contrasts all the more strongly the inactivity of the many. Many more men, in many more places, must take hold of this work and make up their minds that the most practical help they can give to our press and to our movement is to furnish regularly a given number of new readers. In due time, we shall show by comparison, how the various States and cities are doing. Between now and then let all make an effort to improve the status of their own locality.

Comrade H. Scott Bennett, of Melbourne, Australia, who had been sent sample copies of The Monthly People, writes: "I and the other comrades who have seen the specimen copies, are delighted with your publication; it is such a change from the 'wifly-washy' stuff that circulates too often under the title of a Socialist paper. I will endeavor to send for as much literature from your press as I can."

Thus the press and literature of the S. L. P. go around the globe; those who recognize a good thing when they see it shove it along. It is for us, the men of the S. L. P., to place that press in an even better position for its missionary work.

Similar letters have of late been received from England. In London, an effort will be made to extend the circulation of The People by comrades who recognize The People as the foremost representative of militant, revolutionary, proletarian Socialism published in the English language.

In case you have a friend or acquaintance likely to interest himself in the work for the Party press, send us his address. We shall write to all such and ask them to help us. We asked for this once before but our request seems to have escaped attention—or does the non-response mean that the readers have no such connections?

Comrade Adam Marx is still at it in Connecticut. A few more such hustlers would soon put the Nutmeg State way to the front on our mailing list. Comrade Wm. McCormick pounds away at the heathens in the State of Washington, working on a plan all his own, the success of which we shall set forth when more results are in. In California Comrade Schwartz has taken the road as a canvasser for the S. E. C. and the way he is beginning to send in subscriptions makes it look as though he knew his business and meant to live up to what he knows. During last week he sent in thirty-one Weekly and twenty-one Monthly People subscriptions.

Comrade Bert Surges, of Vancouver, B. C., sends in eleven subscribers for The Weekly People and gets a copy of Lissagaray's "History of the Paris Commune."

The number of subscribers received for The Weekly People this week is a record breaker, beating last week's record by fifty-six. This should be kept up right along, and it cannot only be kept up, but it can be made better still. The list follows:

California S. E. C., per Schwartz.... 31  
New Jersey S. E. C., per Berdan.... 20  
Bert Surges, Vancouver, B. C.... 11  
Thos. Francis, Butte, Mont.... 8  
Jos. Hand, City.... 7  
J. R. Strupel, St. Louis, Mo.... 6  
P. Friesma, Jr., Detroit, Mich.... 5

The list should be beaten next week. We should not be satisfied with less than one thousand a week.

The prizes that were offered are here-with repeated:

Comrade Frank P. Janke, of Indianapolis, writes that he will give a year's subscription to the "Scientific American" to the member or friend of that section who sends in the greatest number of subscriptions to The Monthly People between May 4 and July 6. He says he will try and beat the winner himself.

A Colorado sympathizer offers the following prizes to the three persons send-

## INSURANCE CONSOLIDATION

## BIG COMPANIES GETTING TOGETHER TO EFFECT ECONOMIES AND STRENGTHEN THEIR HOLD ON THE FINANCIAL INTERESTS OF THE COUNTRY.

Financiers say that at last the community of interests principle, which they said was inevitable, has been applied to the insurance business. They say it is wonderful that there has not been actual consolidations, the same as have taken place among the banks, and the railroads and industrial companies.

The insurance companies have suffered in a degree from excessive competition. This has not, indeed, resulted in any financial disaster, but it has increased the expenses of operation and thus kept higher the cost of insurance. The announcement has already been made that the Mutual, Equitable and New York Life insurance companies have decided to regulate their competition to the extent, at least of stopping contests between canvassers and unlimited advertising, is of larger significance than appears on the surface. It means practically that these three great concerns, whose assets aggregate more than a thousand million dollars, have established a sort of community of interest, and that their extensive business will be controlled with a view of reducing to a minimum the wastes of competition.

The significance of this movement lies not so much, however, in the possible benefits which will be derived therefrom by the company as in the increased financial power of the allied insurance companies. For these three companies, brought thus into more intimate relations, are themselves in no small measure allied to powerful banking interests. They are among the largest holders of investment securities, their aggregate investments of stocks and bonds amounting to more than \$63,000,000. They are among the largest depositors in the banks and trust companies, their aggregate deposits amounting to more than \$64,000,000. They are large lenders of money, their aggregate loans on securities amounting to more than \$32,000,000, and on real estate and insurance policies to more than \$228,000,000. They are great owners of real estate, their investments in real property amounting to nearly \$83,000,000. Thus the insurance companies are mighty factors in the financial world, touching the money, stock and real estate markets at almost every possible point of contact. Separately they are among the country's greatest financial institutions. Allied, they become one of the dozen most powerful factors in Wall Street.

What this community of interest means may be better appreciated by the following statement, prepared from the published annual reports of the three companies dated Dec. 31, 1902, showing their assets:

Group 1—  
Bank of Commerce..... \$14,818,255  
Mutual Life Insurance..... 382,432,681  
Morton Trust Company..... 58,950,479  
Guaranty Trust Company..... 37,547,445  
Fifth Avenue Trust Company..... 15,597,193  
U. S. Mort. & Trust Company..... 32,117,293

Group 2—  
Western National Bank..... 63,390,548  
Equitable Life Insurance..... 359,395,537  
Mercantile Trust Company..... 62,616,065  
Equitable Trust Company..... 32,979,036

Group 3—  
First National Bank..... 123,322,184  
Chase National Bank..... 59,253,031  
Liberty National Bank..... 12,089,022  
Astor National Bank..... 5,065,188  
Manhattan Trust Company..... 17,076,244

Unclassified—  
New York Life Insurance Co. 322,840,000  
Am. Ex. National Bank..... 51,281,975

Total ..... \$1,751,678,073

Mutual. Equitable. N. Y. Life.  
Bonds and other securities..... \$220,140,306 \$186,363,110 \$225,039,295  
Loans on bonds and mortgages..... 81,566,584 70,006,274 26,125,318  
Loans on securities..... 10,278,000 17,621,000 4,104,000  
Policy loans..... 14,620,874 14,108,674 22,093,674  
Real estate..... 32,833,323 37,193,508 12,880,000  
Cash in banks and trust companies..... 15,677,925 25,852,441 22,622,058  
Accrued interest, deferred premiums and other assets..... 7,315,666 8,250,468 9,976,561

Total assets..... \$382,432,681 \$359,395,537 \$322,840,000

Bonds and other securities..... \$631,542,711  
Loans on bonds and mortgages..... 177,608,176  
Loans on securities..... 32,000,000  
Policy loans..... 50,823,222  
Real estate..... 82,906,891

Cash in banks and trust companies..... 64,152,424  
Accrued interest, deferred premiums and other assets..... 25,542,695

Total assets..... \$1,064,669,118

O. 1. Rossas, West Superior, Wis. Scattering ..... 117

Total ..... 210

There has also been an increase in the number of subscriptions received for The Monthly, this week's being almost double that of last week. The following is the list:

Adam Marx, New London, Conn.... 30  
E. Clafin, Perkinsville, Vt.... 21  
Calif. S. E. C., per Schwartz.... 21  
I. Shapiro, Hamilton, Ont.... 14  
P. Neilson, Woburn, Mass.... 12  
B. Reinstein, Buffalo, N. Y.... 12  
F. F. Young, Cincinnati, O.... 12  
Arie Van Doesburg, Holland, Mich.... 10  
J. P. Dwyer, Butte, Mont.... 10  
J. H. Blewitt, Wilmerding, Pa.... 10  
S. Fischman, Yonkers, N. Y.... 10  
Scattering ..... 167

Total ..... 329

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A Colorado sympathizer offers the following prizes to the three persons send-

## A BELGIAN OPINION.

Vandervelde Thinks European Capitalists Will Fight.

Brussels, April 29.—I had the advantage a few days ago of discussing the political situation with Emile Vandervelde, the leader of the Belgian Socialists, at his home at La Hulpe, a village situated about half an hour's railway journey from Brussels.

M. Vandervelde has no visions of converting the whole world peacefully, and admits to no faith in the ideas of the French Socialist, Millerand, and his school, who, he says, exhort their followers to place all their hopes in legal action. "We do not share that optimism," says he; "we do not at all believe that capitalism will allow itself to be expropriated by persuasion. All the precedents lead us to believe, on the contrary, that the day the dominant class feels itself menaced by the proletarian conquest of the public powers, it will not shrink from a coup d'état, a recourse to force to defend its privileges.

"We are reformers when we demand universal suffrage, because universal suffrage is nothing else than the concentration of a principle affirmed by the anterior revolutions, and inscribed henceforth in the constitution of almost every country.

"But when we pursue the realization of the Socialist ideal we are revolutionists, although we detest violence as much as any one, because we combat in their very principles the capitalist exploitation of labor, the capitalist organization of the state, and the capitalist conception of morality and of religion. We are revolutionists because we wish to cause property without labor to disappear with its sinister corollaries; marriage without love completed by prostitution, and religion without belief, preserved by hypocrisy. We are revolutionists, in fine, because we do not look forward to the enfranchisement of the workers by the good will of governments and legislative assemblies, but by their own efforts of propaganda, of education and of organization."

The Belgian Socialists, in carrying out their propaganda, do not renounce practical action, says M. Vandervelde, or preach "sterile violence," but they remain firm on the platform of class war and guard themselves against attaching an excessive importance to immediate reforms of the intrigues of passing politics. In his conversation with me he was careful to emphasize the fact that Socialism interfered with no man's religion.

"Religion is a private affair for us Socialists," he said. "To say that religion is a private affair is to affirm on the one part our absolute tolerance with regard to religious ideas, and on the other the principle of the absolute separation of churches from state in all domains: teaching, charity (bienfaisance), etc."

The Belgian Socialists would not drive the religious bodies out of the country, M. Vandervelde declares, as the French republicans have done. "What we demand," he repeated, "is the separation of the church and the state, and the legal recognition of philosophical and religious associations, without limitation of the right of possessing real estate as far as is necessary for the accomplishment of the end pursued by the association."

With all this, M. Vandervelde says that not alone is no open alliance possible between the Catholics and the Socialists, but further, that there can be no mixing of the two parties—no merging of their aims. M. Vandervelde scouts the idea that their aims are alike in many particulars. There is not, he says, a party of Moderates in either camp through whom an understanding on various subjects might be affected. There are not even defections from the Catholic forces to the Socialists. All the recruits that the Socialists gain come from the Liberal party, which is already fast dissolving.

Practically there are but two parties in Belgium—the Catholics and the Socialists. The Liberals lost their chance when they were last in power. For all their fine words, they did nothing in the eyes of the people, and their followers are slipping away from them every day. J. C. M. in the Evening Post.

## NOT IN RUSSIA.

But Australian Law-Makers Could Give Nicholas Points.

Melbourne, Australia, May 14.—Parliament met yesterday and W. H. Irvine, the Premier, moved the second reading of a bill for the suppression of the strike on the government railways. The bill provides that an employee leaving his work without giving four nights' notice, is to be assumed to have joined the strikers and will incur the penalty of \$500 fine or a year's imprisonment, with loss of pension, and will be ineligible in the future for government employ. It further empowers the police to destroy documents encouraging the strike, makes the printers thereof offenders against the law, and declares meetings to be unlawful if four strikers are present. The police are empowered to enter meetings forcibly.



## WEEKLY PEOPLE

4 and 6 New Beads St., New York.  
P. O. Box 1576. Tel. 129 Franklin

Published every Saturday by the  
Socialist Labor Party.

Bundle rates: Less than 100 copies, 1 cent a copy; 100 to 500 copies, 5¢ cent a copy; 500 or more, 1¢ cent a copy.

Entered as second-class matter at the New York post office, July 13, 1890.

As far as possible, rejected communications will be returned, if so desired, and stamps are enclosed.

SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888.....	2,060
In 1892.....	21,157
In 1896.....	36,564
In 1900.....	34,191
IN 1902.....	53,617

## A VALUABLE SPECIMEN.

What is being called the "strike epidemic" does not cease to bring to the surface some remarkable "revelations." Among these is the "revelation" of the Hecla Iron Works.

The Hecla Iron Works is—or shall we henceforth have to say "was"?—a profit sharing concern. Mr. Francis Jackson, its secretary, says:

"The 5,000 men in our employ have been receiving high wages. They have been happy and contented, and they have been benefited yearly by the co-operative system, whereby they have been sharing in the profits."

Like a clap from a clear sky, these idyllic conditions suddenly come to stop; nay, worse, they are transformed into—well, we won't use the word. In short, the men are all locked-out. Let Mr. Francis Jackson tell the tale to its end:

"The men put in a demand for a fifty-hour a week basis, and that finishers be paid 36 cents an hour, and helpers 25 cents an hour. The company decided on emphatic action; it refused, and locked them all out. MEN CAN NOT BE MEMBERS OF A COMPANY AND ACT THAT WAY AT THE SAME TIME."

Certainly an odd state of things!

Here we have partners (that's the theory) proposing to exercise partnership rights, and yet getting incontinently bounced for it. Partnership implies part-ownership; ownership implies the right to enjoy the thing owned. The enjoyment of a business concern is in direct measure to what one gets out of it; nor is the idea of "enjoyment" compatible with wages insufficient for civilized livelihood, or with hours incompatible with civilized manhood. Here, then, we have 5,000 partners (remember, that's the theory), on one side, and 10, or, perhaps, only 5, on the other; and yet the 5, or be it 10, have it in their power to, and actually do throw the 5,000 flat upon their backs on the side-walk, and upon a-quarter of a minutes' notice, at that!

No wonder Mr. Francis Jackson is dazed, staggered by the question, How did we manage it? It is not presuming too much to imagine the 5,000 partners, dazed, in their turn, and, in their turn, staggered by the question, How did they manage it?

Like volcanic eruptions, that throw up from the bowels of the earth concealed minerals, never dreamed to have been there, and which are then picked up from the surface, studied, and enlighten the race upon Nature's secrets, this "strike epidemic" is throwing up queer specimens of, to some, never dreamed of socio-economic minerals. One of these is the Hecla Iron Works lockout of 5,000 "partners." May these 5,000 partners and the 55,000,000 and more wage slave population carefully study the specimen. It will enlighten them on what there is in "profit sharing."

## SOCIALISM VINDICATED.

The correctness of the theories of class-conscious Socialism has once more been vindicated by the utterances of its opponents.

For many generations the Socialist has pointed out the inefficacy of factory legislation as a remedy for the social ills to which labor is subjected. Recognizing that under capitalism, owing to the class character of society, all government is class government, the Socialist has pointed out that factory legislation, even when favorably enacted, will be interpreted, enforced and adopted in accordance with the necessities of capitalist production for profit. This claim has been strenuously fought by the leaders of pure-and-simple unionism—the Gompers, Mitchells, et al. Ever watchful of the economic and political interests of their masters, they have denied, and are denying, the class character of society. They have taught, and are teaching, that the interests of the laboring

and the capitalist classes are identical; and that, consequently, factory legislation, enacted with "a due regard for the interests of those concerned," could be effectively enacted and applied. Accordingly, they marshal "the forces of organized labor" for or against certain legislation and certain legislators—always capitalists and anti-Socialists—and when the result is the passage of a bill they point to it as an illustration of "the practical character of trades unionism" and a demonstration of "the visionary character of Socialism."

The proof of the pudding lies in the eating! From Chicago comes the testimony of Henry D. Lloyd. He has tasted the factory legislation pudding, with the result that his face is awry and he looks as if he would vomit. Reviewing the English book, "A History of Factory Legislation," covering centuries of experience, he finds, with the authors, that "of all the nineteenth century inventions in social organization, factory legislation is the most widely diffused. . . . And yet the mass of sweating in the greatest center of wealth (and he might have added pure-and-simple unionism) in the world—London—is growing, not lessening."

Transferring the scene of investigation from England to America, especially Illinois, in which Chicago, another "center of wealth" and pure-and-simpledom, is located, Lloyd is forced to say: "In itself it has done to some workers much good, but as a remedy for the ills brought upon society, and even the workers, FACTORY LEGISLATION HAS PROVED A FAILURE."

Lloyd, with the convenient blindness of pure-and-simplers, attributes this failure to a wonderful cause. He says: "Dissipated smokers have the tobacco heart; our civilization has the factory heart." This is absurd. Our civilization has capitalism, which Lloyd and the labor leaders, like his friends Mitchell and Gompers, uphold—via the Republican and Democratic parties. With the class exploitation, the class government and the economic pressure of capitalism, factory legislation is bound to be ineffective, no matter how great the philanthropic desire and pure-and-simple attempt to end the social ills, against which it is directed, may be.

Socialism, not factory legislation, is the solution of the social problem. This the Lloyds and their admission of failure make clear. Socialism is thus vindicated once more!

## JACKDAWS GALORE.

As is well known, the intrepidity of the Socialist Labor Party frequently brings it into close quarters with the enemy. The attitude of the Party, at the time, for instance, of McKinley's assassination, when the anarchist capitalist class sought to make capital of the crime by persecuting the Socialist Labor Party's speakers, brought on a series of encounters in which the Party attested its mettle, and stood unshakable on the breach. Two leading and quite recent instances of the Party's moral vigor were the Beaumont, Texas, and the still more recent Buffalo conflict.

In Beaumont, a Socialist Labor Party speaker bearded the criminal capitalist class, there represented by its hoodlum. These had threatened him with bodily harm if he spoke. He remained untrifled, and spread the light of the New Evangel among the wage slaves that the recently discovered oilwells had attracted. The threat was carried out; he was arrested, taken out of jail with the connivance of the officials, and white-capped mercilessly. In Buffalo, police chicanery and bluff did all in its might to muzzle the Party's speakers. A long conflict ensued, followed by arrests and all manner of threats. The upshot in both places is that free speech is now safe there. The physical outrage committed upon the S. L. P. man in Beaumont, no less than the final route of the Buffalo police wrought a victory for the Cause of Civilization, and it is a matter of public notoriety that the victory was won for the Cause of Civilization by S. L. P. men, and none other.

And now the jackdaws come trotting upon the scene. The press of the Bogus Socialist, alias Social Democratic, party is just blossoming forth with reports from Chase, the "Socialist" (Social Democratic) ex-Mayor of Haverhill, written from Beaumont, in which he refers to the Beaumont outrage in such vague terms as to make it appear that the hero of the occasion was one of his own fellow Bogus Socialists; and the Erie, Pa., "People," another Bogus Socialist party paper—true to its imitation-counterfeit name, by which it tries to look like the respected organ of the Socialist

Labor Party, and true also to the instincts of its present editor, one Wanhope, in point of physical, mental and moral profligacy the fit one-time successor of "A. M. Simons, Editor" on the Chicago "Socialist"—caps the climax by reporting the great Buffalo victory, won by the S. L. P., in similar vague-fraudulent manner.

The Beaumont and Buffalo events were the deeds of men. Only men can dare, and suffer, and achieve like that. Nor can men be the product of a Bogus Socialist concern, the breath in whose nostrils is false pretence and "wibble." When the jelly-fishy Chases and Wanhope, together with all their political kith and kin, were skulking clean out of sight in safe corners, it was the men of the S. L. P. who, from Beaumont to Buffalo, and across the continent, stood upon the breach, and, unbending, held open the gates—Free Speech—for the Revolution.

Like the jackdaw in the fable, these Bogus Socialists, who played the craven in the hour of danger, are hereby plucked by the S. L. P. of the stolen feathers that they seek to glory in; and they are left to be pecked by the onlooking masses, whom they seek to impose upon, who are getting "onto" them, and before whom they stand plucked, a sorry figure of uncovered dishonesty.

## PROFESSOR GREEN GOODS.

A certain magazine, which, for a moment, we shall leave unnamed, addresses itself against the Socialist claim that modern legislation is class legislation, capitalist class legislation, in the interest of capitalism. It argues this way:

"There are hardly any laws made in this country in the interest of capital; on the contrary, the whole trend of legislation is against capital. Witness the Congress that has just adjourned. The greatest part of its time was taken up in discussing measures against trusts and corporations."

It will be noticed that the "argument" carefully avoids setting up the claim that legislation is in favor of labor. That claim, once common, has been knocked so completely into a cocked hat that the magazine in question does not care to set up a target so clear and distinct that it can be hit. Its argument is therefore negative. The color of "Labor Legislation" having "washed out," what is now attempted is the color of "Anti-capitalist Legislation."

The only difference in meeting and overthrowing this present dodge, when compared with the former false claim of "Labor Legislation" is the difference between attacking a wriggling snake and attacking a bold wolf. The "Labor Legislation" claim was a bold, brazen lie; this "Anti-capitalist Legislation" is a sneaking false pretence.

The discussions in Congress have been extensively "on measures against trusts,"—watch the snake wriggling. Is a discussion against trusts necessarily a discussion against capitalism, i. e., against the system that exploits the non-property classes by the property classes? As surely not. It is no more than that a discussion against a highway robber is necessarily a discussion against highway robbery. A discussion against a highway robber is one against highway robbery only when the criminal is at the bar of justice, before which he is arraigned simply as an exponent of highway robbery, and what really is at the bar is the crime itself. When, however, the "discussion" is conducted between him and a lot of petty robbers, who seek not the abolition of robbery, but the curbing of the big fellow, who stands in the light of the petty robbers,—when that is the case, it takes a very elaborate dealer in green goods to venture the claim that the discussion is against robbery. And that is just the case with the above quotation.

The smaller capitalist interests have been assailing trusts, never capitalism. Without exception, the discussions in Congress and the laws passed have been in the interest of capital, not infrequently in the interest of trust capital. The Cuban treaty, the sugar schedules, the Panama Canal treaty and so down the list are acts of Congress passed with an eye single upon the promotion of capital and capitalism, with labor left wholly out of consideration. Not until the working class shall have class-consciously conquered the public powers will legislation cease to be in the interest of capital, because only then will capitalism itself be in the criminal's dock.

The name of the magazine is now in season. It is "Gunton's Magazine," the property of a gentleman known to fame as a forger of statistics, a falsifier of quotations and a protege of capitalists—Bebel's "Woman."

Owing to unavoidable technical delays the beginning of the serial publication of the English translation of Bebel's book "Woman," has been postponed until next week.

ingmen, for all of which reasons he is generally known, not by his one-time name of Professor George Gunton, but by the name of Professor Green Goods.

## HOW ABOUT THE SUBWAY "DAGOS?"

The Socialist Labor Party has repeatedly exposed the fraudulent character of the "labor leader." It has made clear that the function of the "labor leader" is to perpetuate and not end the exploitation of the working class. It has shown in fewer words that the "labor leader" is the labor lieutenant of the capitalist class, ready to obey its orders and prosecute its campaigns against working class emancipation.

Current events have piled fact on fact in support of the correctness of the position of the Socialist Labor Party. Just now current events in this the greatest center of the greatest capitalist country in the world are adding more indisputable evidence to this mountainous accumulation of proof.

There is a strike raging on the subway. The Italians engaged in the dangerous work of excavation want more wages. Do we see the "labor leaders"—the Pallasses, the Archibalds, et al.—rushing to their support? Do we see them augmenting the advantageous position of the excavators by fraternal assistance, and otherwise adding to the determination of the strikers? Not at all! We see them hastening to bring about the strikers' defeat; we see them manoeuvring to break down that determination.

We see these "labor leaders," acting upon the letters received from Contractor McDonald, endeavoring to persuade the strikers to return to work "pending arbitration." We see these "labor leaders," when the men insisted on settlement first and return after, stating that they did not care to be tricked as the miners had been—we see these "labor leaders" inoculating the strikers' officers with the virus of capitalism for whose injection they receive their pay. Failing in this, we next witness these "labor leaders," in their desperation, ordering the return to work of the affiliated trades, and otherwise aiding the capitalist press and police in a vain endeavor to introduce scab labor and stampede the strikers back to work!

Is there any doubt as to whose "lieutenants" these "labor leaders" of pure and simple unionism are?

Thus is the S. L. P. position proved once more. The "labor leader" is a capitalist hireling. He battens on the betrayal of the working class. To this he owes his prestige and power. Without it he would be the insignificant nincompoop that he really is.

All thanks to the "dagos" for the lesson they have taught the working class. Credit is due them for their correct working-class instincts. When in the future the "labor leader" shall again boast of "what he has done for labor," thanks to the bone-fide working class action of these "dago" strikers, the working class can promptly make these boasters shut up by asking:

How about the subway "dagos"?

An American missionary, returning from the Congo "Free" State, tells awful tales of the slavery existing there. The natives are whipped, maimed and beaten. Families are raided at night and the girls sold for ten dollars apiece. The missionary holds King Leopold personally responsible for this condition in the Congo Free State. He says Leopold has become the largest individual rubber merchant in the world. He has driven out of the Congo State practically all the foreign traders or imprisoned the few who remained and protested. He has almost a monopoly of the rubber output. The king deals with the rubber trust here. The rubber, costing him absolutely nothing, is sold to the trust at a low figure.

While this is not an unusual tale, it being similar to that told about the Americans in the Philippines and the Germans in Africa, it illustrates once more the character of capitalistic territorial exploitation. It shows, also, the character of the man who the Church in Belgium helps to combat the Socialist movement, which aims to overthrow that exploitation.

It would be interesting to know in how far this American missionary represents the foreign leaders who are fighting King Leopold's rubber monopoly. Is the rubber trust the source of his inspiration?

A capitalist contemporary thinks it strange that Jews should be slaughtered in a Christian country like Russia. Our contemporary has evidently forgotten the slaughter in the Philippines. If it will look around it will find that slaughter is a characteristic of Christian countries, despite the fact that they profess to walk in the footsteps of the Prince of Peace.

Bebel's "Woman."

Owing to unavoidable technical delays the beginning of the serial publication of the English translation of Bebel's book "Woman," has been postponed until next week.

## "NEGIGIBLE DETAILS"

The Hon. William Jennings Bryan, who does not always talk nonsense, who, on the contrary, whenever he leaves political economy alone, can make very brilliant and exact size-ups, recently illustrated well his penetration in this line.

The recent and sudden bursting forth of the Cleveland boom caused Mr. Bryan to turn upon it the telescope of his knowledge of things. That the boom was called, and presented as, "a spontaneous popular outbreak of the Democratic rank and file" did not affect his vision. He looked through it; saw that the "spontaneous popular outbreak" proceeded from the columns of certain newspapers; and when these newspapers began to be referred to as "Democratic," Mr. Bryan laid down his telescope, and expressed the wish that the "names of the men who really dictate the editorial policy of these papers be disclosed." The size-up was brilliant, it was exact, it was a bull's-eye,—how much so may be judged from the howl it raised from these same representatives of the alleged "spontaneous popular outbreak." One of these, the New York "Times," felt so badly hit that it lost its little head, and declared such a matter—the names of the men who really dictate the editorial policy of these papers—a NEGIGIBLE DETAIL.

As well might the man, charged with stealing a diamond pin, found secreted in a secret pocket about him, pronounce the circumstance a "negligible detail." It is a detail of importance enough to establish the psychology of theft. And so in this instance, the "negligible detail" is of deep importance to the understanding of the psychology of the political chess game,—chess game that, up to now, is presenting thrilling combinations and situations.

Readers of THE PEOPLE will remember a recent article in these columns in which it was shown that the Presidential nominations of BOTH the two "great parties," and frequently of several of the smaller ones, are dictated by one and the same small coterie of capitalist magnates, and that, with the extremely rare exceptions when national conventions take the bit in their own mouths and run off with it, these nominations are made so as to entertain the voting public, according to the political lay of the land may happen to be. It was shown that the nominees were all settled beforehand and at the same time, the one to be elected being predetermined. It was also shown that, at times, the political lay of the land is such as to give these "back-parlor" conventions many a good headache. Such an emergency is now on. The "negligible detail" in the matter are especially instructive.

The present incumbent in the Presidential chair is capitalist up to the handle; as such there are no objections to him. But man is man; the personal equation is inseparable from him; even under the individuality-destroying capitalist system and among capitalists themselves, idiosyncrasies sometimes bid defiance to all personal interests. Such is the case with Mr. Roosevelt. He is altogether too "picturesque." He is a bull in a china shop. As such he is a source of worry to the cool-headed, dispassionate coterie of capitalist magnates who dictate nominations. Hanna is their beau ideal. But can they knock down Roosevelt with him? If they could the coast would be clear. But it is doubtful that they can.

It is in view of this doubt that the Cleveland boom has been started. If Roosevelt can not be lured into the nomination, then the nomination of Cleveland "by" the Democratic party would save the situation. Roosevelt would be left in the lurch, he would make a campaign of hysterics, the Hanna coterie being underhanded wholly, financially and morally on Cleveland's side. Cleveland is the haven of refuge of non-partisan capitalism from Rooseveltian "high jinks."

But at this stage, and all athwart, there comes third, and highly perturbing "negligible detail." It is the Hearst boom, as well as Hanna, is a genuine product of capitalism. But while the latter represents the solid, sober dollars-and-cents and get-more-of-them spirit of capitalism, the former represents the reverse of the medal: the "prodigal son" element: the what-have-we-got-all-this-money-for-if-not-to-buy-all-we-like-with element. A Presidential chair is coveted by this element, as at other times it may covet a woman's honor, or any other "gew-gaw." This element is brilliant; it is, of course, verges on the demagogic; what is more, it has the knack, which the Hanna element lacks, of absorbing whatever crude revolutionary electricity may be lying around loose in the atmosphere. This element can develop, occasionally, great strength. What strength it can develop, and what power for mischief is latent in it, the history of Rome is replete with illustrations on. The Hearst boom, then, comes athwart the calculations of the sober, "on all fours" Hanna capitalist element. Will Hearst snatch off the nomination in 1904 as Bryan did in 1896? That is the great question that is disturbing just now the sleep of the Hannas. If he does, then Roosevelt must be turned down and a safe, i. e., sober capitalist candidate set up by the Republican convention; if he does, and Roosevelt is not turned down, then, despite their will, the "on all fours" capitalists will have to wheel in line for Roosevelt

and bleed hard out of their pockets,—a prospect not at all agreeable to them. The only salvation is the failure of Hearst and the nomination of Cleveland.

Are not these "negligible details" thrilling enough for yellow covers? And what else are they besides but so many "negligible" (?) thorns in the pillows of sober American capitalism?

English trades unionism, that "great institution whose praises have so often been sounded," has again given an exhibition of its inherent weakness and profligacy. The following dispatch tells the tale in unmistakable language:

"Melbourne, May 15.—Premier Irvine announced in the Legislative Assembly to-day that he had received a letter from the officials of the Engine Drivers' Association declaring the strike off and submitting unconditionally.

"The president of the Engine Drivers' Association, in an interview, said the surrender was due to the drastic nature of the Strike bill, which was sure of adoption, and which had increased the number of men returning to work. It was only fair, therefore, to place the others on the same level."

Compare the action of these English trades unionists with those of Holland union

## CORRESPONDENCE.

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name will attach such name to their communications, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

Another Victim of the "Socialist" Party Praises The People for Opening His Eyes.

To The Daily and Weekly People.—I want to congratulate you on the good work The People is doing in exposing the freaks and fakirs who are misleading the labor movement and exploiting the Socialist sentiment in America.

I am another one of those who have been fooled into believing that the so-called Socialist party represented the real Socialist movement. I was a charter member of Section Medford, Okla., until the section lapsed. After the kangaroo episode of 1899 I affiliated with the Socialist party of Oklahoma. I carried into it with me the uncompromising S. L. P. spirit, and, with a few others, sought to make the party a bona fide Socialist organization; but, after a three years' trial, found it impossible. The middle class element dominated and would have nothing of proletarian tactics.

Since coming to Kansas City I have attended nearly all of the Mills' meetings and became more and more convinced that the S. P. is a counterfeit Socialist party.

During the past four months I have been a reader of The Daily People, and am now fully decided that the S. L. P. is the only genuine workingman's party. Therefore, in the future I shall vote its ticket and support its propaganda, convinced that it is the only organization that represents my interests and the interests of my class, the wage-working class.

J. W. McFall.

Kansas City, Mo., May 11.

Did the Anaconda "Socialists" Sell Out?

To The Daily and Weekly People.—The Mayor-elect and three aldermen-elect on the "Socialist" ticket in Anaconda, failed to comply with the law in regard to furnishing bonds and therefore cannot take office. I believe they have sold out already. Will let The People readers know later.

P. J. Dwyer.

Butte, Mont., May 6.

Cameron King, "Socialist" Corruptionist, Photographs Himself.

To The Daily and Weekly People.—Cameron King, of San Francisco, Cal., spoke at Great Central Palace last Friday evening. He is one of the two "Socialists" who accepted jobs from the Democratic Mayor in that city in 1900.

It was too bad that the hall was not filled with Social Democrats to hear what this "fakir from within" had to say. Surely the honest ones among them would have had their eyes opened as to what's boring from within means. At 8.30 there were only a dozen people in the room, and at 9.25, when the chairman called the meeting to order, I counted 20 people, including five Socialist Labor Party men, the chairman and the speaker.

King spent most of his time talking about the De Leonites and "The People." He consumed thirty minutes trying to explain his traitorous conduct in accepting a job from a Democratic administration. He said they were the third party in the State and entitled to an appointment, and if they had not petitioned to have Everett appointed Commissioner of Elections the Democrats could have appointed any old kind of a Socialist—even a De Leonite. Everett afterward appointed King as his deputy. He said they did not take the job because they wanted the offices, but so they could see that the votes were counted straight.

After this King got down to his subject, "The Political Situation in California." His talk was an attempt to justify the action of the Social Democratic party in California in not putting up candidates, but supporting the candidates of the Union Labor party instead. "Much has been said about us fusing with the Union Labor party," he said, "but we did not fuse—we only refused to put up candidates, and supported their candidates."

King claimed the economic situation there was different from any other place in the world; that, as a result of the numerous strikes, the trade unions were forced to go into politics to protect their unions, and it was the duty of the Social Democratic party to work with them. He also said when similar conditions arise in other places it will be their duty to refrain from putting up candidates, but, instead, support those of the Union Labor party.

He lamented the fact that this was not done from the start in San Francisco, and said it caused them to lose 60-2-3 per cent. of their members, and 40 per cent. of their vote. Tears almost came to his eyes when he told how his party was called a scab party, and his paper, the Advance, a scab sheet, because they did not support the Union Labor party in 1901, just the same as the Socialist Labor Party is called a scab party and The New York People a scab sheet.

King said the De Leonites were cowards; that they ran away from the unions and were afraid to stay there to fight it out, as if it required more courage to submit to the labor fakirs than to fight them.

Then he got back to the De Leonites again and said the San Franciscans got a good idea what the "skunks" were when Hickey came out there in 1899.

When the discussion followed Comrade Murphy got up and said Hickey

was a real skunk, and when the Socialist Labor Party found out he was a skunk it fired him out bodily, and when the Social Democratic party found out he was a skunk it took him in, and that now, according to the Seattle Socialist, he is on a lecture tour for them in the State of Washington.

Comrade Murphy and I told the audience that this man King is a logical "fakir from within," and that when the time comes in New York for the fakirs to organize a Union Labor party, or when they line up with Hearst next year and the Social Democratic "fakirs from within" are brought face to face with the alternative of standing by their own party and being called scabs or going over to the Union Labor or Hearst party and not be called scabs, they will do the latter.

The meeting adjourned about 12 o'clock.

S. New York, May 10, 1903.

Gompers Banquetted by Toronto Capitalists.

To The Daily and Weekly People.—That well-fed "champion of the labor movement of North America," Sam Gompers, came here with his fellow-grafters of the Executive Council of the A. F. of L., to bind still tighter the chains of slavery upon the working class.

"Our" capitalist City Council showed its appreciation of these misleaders of the working class by giving them a banquet, at which Toronto's Mayor was present. This Mayor, since taking office, has asked the war department to give more accommodations to troops in armories.

This Mayor has the support of the fakirs in the Trades and Labor Council and the so-called Socialist party paper here, without whose support, they claim, he could not have been elected. These fakirs were wined and dined by the enemies of the working class in return for service rendered to capitalism, which consists of leading the workers around in a circle in pursuit of that delusion called "A fair day's wages, for a fair day's work," instead of marching them straight to the ballot box and capturing the political power, thereby putting an end to wage slavery.

Gompers, Mitchell, and others, were well advertised to appear in a hall that holds 6,000 people. Less than one quarter that number went in. Many were attracted by curiosity to see Mitchell, the man who helped Mark Hanna to get rid of much soft coal last winter. Several members of the "Socialist" party went to pay homage to these upholders of capitalism. Among the number was Weston Wrigley, who was right in his element, fawning on the fakirs. How different was the conduct of the members of the Socialist Labor Party, who gave out the newly received leaflet, "The Union Wreckers."

Along came Gompers and his assistants, who work the workers. Sammy's "bay window," which was very much to the fore, showed how nobly he has been waging the Glass struggle. "There cheers for the Socialist Labor Party," called out a comrade on seeing the labor lieutenants, who were startled at the response given. On they went to pose and carry on their sham fight until such time as the Socialist Labor Party, by its campaign of education, shall gather around it sufficient class conscious wage workers to be able to grapple successfully with the capitalist and his friend, the labor fakir.

Some members of Section Toronto are distributing leaflets on Sundays in the parks and gardens. Factories and dwellings will also be visited. Our first open air meeting of the season will take place May 9. The propaganda committee has been empowered to employ boys and girls, and men and women to obtain subscribers to The Monthly People, 5 cents to be paid for each subscription.

William Thompson.

Toronto, Ont., Canada, May 3.

Adam Marr's Method of Agitation and Securing Monthly People Subscribers.

To The Daily and Weekly People.—I received last week twenty-five sample copies of The Monthly People.

There were three groups of railroad workmen at the depot when I received them. I gave them most all of those Monthly Peoples, and tried hard to get subscribers. I met with no success, but I told them that if they could not subscribe to-day to mail 10 cents in postage, and their address, to 2-6 New Readie street, New York. They would then get a true workingman's paper.

It seems to me they did not have the 10 cents. I also gave away five copies of "What Means This Strike?" by DeLeon, and told them to read it out aloud to each group, and that they will find the truth therein. They promised me they would.

I am all alone in this work here, and sent in yesterday ten more subs. for the Monthly, and have six more on my list. I need four more to make another ten. Will send that list also as soon as it is filled out.

You can rest assured I am in this work for fair. Down with the fakirs, small and large, one and all. Kangaroos of all kinds, no matter what kind! Our principles are the only ones worth fighting for!

I am intruding on the management of The People again, as I must have more sample copies of The Monthly People. If I could I would order, and pay for a good order, but I am sorry to say I am doing hardly any work at all. I have not earned \$5 a week for the last year. It is hard, but still I keep up courage, and will do my part, hoping I may some time do something financially to help the S. L. P. and cover some of the expenses of the Daily, Weekly and Monthly embarrassments.

It seems surprising to me that the comrades do not work harder, in securing subscriptions for the Monthly. If each comrade would only get one monthly sub in

every section and give the organizer their names and addresses each day, we would soon have a large following and our present situation would be greatly improved. I am sure they could do that.

Now is the time, comrades: let us all hustle.

Adam Marx.

New London, Conn., May 12.

The Absurd Lynn Item Again.

To The Daily and Weekly People.—For the past two months articles have been appearing in the Lynn Evening Item misrepresenting Socialism and Socialists, attempting to nullify the work of the Socialist Labor Party and the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance among the Lynn strikers.

These articles were promptly answered by the press committee of Section Lynn, and that the item writer and capitalist apologist did not relish the hot shots fired at him was evident by his "answer" to our articles.

The following is the latest of the articles of the press committee, which appeared in the item of May 7:

Messrs. Editors: In the article which appeared in the item of April 29, entitled "Socialist Dreams," the writer claims that the minimum, or bare subsistence, wage is the foundation of Marx's whole attack on the capitalist system.

If the writer had but carefully studied Marx's "Capital," as he would lead us to infer he had, he would know that in the chapter entitled "Buying and Selling of Labor Power" Marx proved conclusively that the minimum wage must be at least the cost of subsistence, or, in other words, that when the price of labor power falls to that minimum the condition of the workers must inevitably grow worse, and that the average must be higher in order to be of normal quality.

The writer has evidently (perhaps purposely) confused causes and effects. When Marx spoke of the effects of the capitalist system the writer concluded that he meant the cause, whereas, if he but understood the cause of the effects, he would know that it was the private ownership of the means of production, etc., and the only way to abolish the effects is to remove the cause, and that is by substituting the Socialist republic for this planless system of production, industrial war and social disorder; or, to put it in a nutshell, so to speak, the collective ownership of the means of production, etc., which, by the way, is the bedrock of Socialist philosophy. We are obliged to constantly remind the item writer of this fact, lest he forget.

Farms.

The writer claims that we used percentages to make it appear that the small farmers are in a horrible nightmare. By that statement he implies that we have not acted honorably in this controversy. We will now quote for his benefit a few figures to prove our contention. But before quoting the figures we desire to impress strongly upon the minds of the writers and readers of the item that the figures we are now about to use, and the figures that we quoted in our previous articles, are not Socialist figures, but are the figures of the Census Department of the United States of America, which have been issued by that department from time to time. But enough of this. Let us now proceed to examine, to analyze, these figures—furnished by the Census Department at Washington, D. C., mind you—and see if the contention of the Socialist Labor Party is correct or not.

Workingmen of common sense look with loathing and disgust at the churches. Said a colored workingman to me the other day: "They asked me to come to church last Sunday. But I and the churches parted company years ago. If I had gone some of the brethren would have remarked, 'What's that damned nigger doing here?'

The churches try to keep the people doped between elections. But the churches are losing their grip. Nobody is interested in them nowadays except a few middle class sharks, who use them in concocting schemes to rob the workers and advance their business interests.

The ginnmills perform the same stunt as the churches via the objective method. Their political province is to keep the people doped at elections. They do it more brutally than the ecclesiastical spinbenders, but their victim lands quicker into Nirvana, into the blissful ecstasy of joyous jag.

The S. L. P. does not object to boring from within. What it objects to is boring from within ALONE. It has proved that where the principle of "boring from within" is set up to the exclusion of all other sort of boring, what happens is dishonesty, the lying low and allowing the fakir to do as he pleases. The S. L. P. bores in all ways, within, without, and sideways, that can. All this has been explained scores of times.

That all the S. L. P. holds on the subject is correct is illustrated by this Rapid Transit Strike. The Kangaroo "boreers from within" dare not stand against the fakirs, while the S. L. P. Comrade Serrall does and has thereby been able to prevent the fakirs from turning the strike down, i. e., inducing the men "to return to work pending arbitration."

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Their political province is to keep the people doped at elections. They do it more brutally than the ecclesiastical spinbenders, but their victim lands quicker into Nirvana, into the blissful ecstasy of joyous jag.

But by gilding its vices capitalism is losing the grip of the ginnmills. In one more way than one capitalism is digging its own grave. While the working class is on the ascent it finds everything greased for the occasion; but so will the capitalist class find everything greased on the occasion of its descent.

C. C. Crolly.

Pleasantville, N. Y., May 12.

A Typical S. L. P. Letter.

Note.—The Daily and Weekly People have been the recipients of a large number of copies of letters sent in answer to invitations proceeding from fishy quarters that recently set themselves up as "only logical centers" for starting of new parties. All these answers show that the public is not made up of gullions. We cannot publish all; we here publish one which will stand for all the others and covers the field to a "T."

Here it is:

Fort Hancock, Texas, May 5.

Roman R. Holler,

Secretary S. L. League,

Newark, N. J.

Well, Roman, I received your "holler" of the 18th ultimo, and it amused me considerably. And the "autocrats" of the S. L. P. are standing on your feet, too, are they? Why don't you "holler" for the "p'leee" or order out the militia?

The "autocrats" seem to have the faculty of exciting the white heat of all the rag pickers, curtain peddlers and old men from Harlem to the East Side, and now the pill pounders and corn salve heroes are lining up. Why don't you flock with the other freaks and not sing your discordant songs to folks whose ears are not attuned to catch the burden of your graft.

In the Youths' Companion of February 9, 1900, Lyman Gage, ex-Secretary of the Treasury, claimed that there were over \$60,000,000,000 worth of wealth produced in 1899, which would be an average of over \$2400 per worker. As the average wage is about \$437, it proves, according to Secretary Gage's statement,

that the worker gets less than 20 per cent. of the product of his toil.

The writer says that he believes the wages of the railroad employees are higher than ever. If he takes the trouble to secure a copy of the Interstate Commerce Commission's report of April 9, 1903, he will then speak from knowledge, and not from belief or faith.

Press Committee.

Section Lynn, Socialist Labor Party.

Father McGrady's "Socialism."

To The Daily and Weekly People.—I attended Father McGrady's lecture on Socialism and Religion, held under the auspices of the bogus Socialist party in the City Hall on May 3. Tickets were sold at 10 cents each, and a collection was taken up besides.

All the "Socialism" I heard from Father McGrady consisted of a criticism of Father O'Reilly for publishing in the Parish Calendar of this city that the said Father McGrady was suspended from the Roman Catholic Church for touring the country and preaching on Socialism, in opposition to the wishes of his superiors.

He threw a few funny jokes in once in a while in order to keep the unclass-conscious workmen in good humor and jolly them a little. They knew as much about Socialism when the lecture was over as they did before it started.

If I thought I was capable I would write up the two meetings that were held in the City Hall. They were laughable to a class-conscious workman.

J. D. G.

Lawrence, Mass., May 11.

The Handmaids of Capitalism.

To The Daily and Weekly People.—The churches and the ginnmills are the handmaids of capitalism. The prince of religionists was Prince Guatama Buddha. Believing that no amount of speculation would solve the problem, Buddha retired into the forest. Mind being the reflex of the material condition, the eternal change in nature's primeval home impressed itself upon him, and Buddha came back with the message that nothing is but change-motion or life. The ego, according to Buddha, is a motion of such velocity as to be beyond the realization of ordinary attention.

The ruling class of India was not slow to turn his discovery to their own benefit. They exploited it as our modern capitalists exploit the Bible. They taught the religion of mysticism. The Buddhist will rivet his eye on the naval of Buddha to get in swing with the ego and enter into the blissful state of Nirvana.

Modern religions try to lead their followers there by prayer, music and silent meditation, or by emulating the example of a monkey howling by moonlight in the treetops of Brazil. The object of this is to pull the wool over the eyes of the proletarian sheep and make him stand quietly to his clipping; to draw the attention of an oppressed class by the promise of a fleeting dream in place of the actual realities of higher enjoyments. But the working class of to-day is beginning to see the joke.

Farms.

The writer claims that we used percentages to make it appear that the small farmers are in a horrible nightmare. By that statement he implies that we have not acted honorably in this controversy. We will now quote for his benefit a few figures to prove our contention. But before quoting the figures we desire to impress strongly upon the minds of the writers and readers of the item that the figures we are now about to use, and the figures that we quoted in our previous articles, are not Socialist figures, but are the figures of the

